From: Kelley, Jeff

To: <u>Behnke, Kristina</u>; <u>Reshkin, Karen</u>

Cc: <u>Bassler, Rachel</u>

Subject: RE: please use this statement for the home page text

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:18:01 PM

Could we add Rachel as a contact for press?

Jeff Kelley

Director, Office of External Communications

U.S. EPA Region 5 ph: 312-353-1159

From: Behnke, Kristina

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 12:21 PM

To: Borries, Samuel; Kelley, Jeff; Reshkin, Karen; Maguire, Andrew; Mendez, Thomas; Ribordy,

Michael

Subject: Fwd: please use this statement for the home page text

I made the website public with the provided statement from Karen. The two photos are also public.

Kristina Behnke

On-Scene Coordinator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

77 W. Jackson Blvd. (SE-5J)

Chicago, IL 60604

Office: (312) 353-1057 Fax: (312) 692-2406 Cell: (312) 237-5685

Behnke.Kristina@epa.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Borries, Samuel" < borries.samuel@epa.gov>

Date: April 12, 2017 at 11:35:05 AM CDT

To: "Behnke, Kristina" < behnke.kristina@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: please use this statement for the home page text

Ok with me.

From: Behnke. Kristina

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:49 AM

To: Borries, Samuel borries.samuel@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff kelley.jeff@epa.gov>

Cc: Reshkin, Karen < Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov >; Maguire, Andrew < maguire.andrew@epa.gov >; Mendez, Thomas < mendez.thomas@epa.gov >; Ribordy, Michael < ribordy.mike@epa.gov >

Subject: FW: please use this statement for the home page text

Hi Sam and Jeff,

Below is the revised statement for the website? Can I go ahead and make it public? Do you have any revisions?

I will be able to make changes and make it live around noon.

Kristina Behnke

On-Scene Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 77 W. Jackson Blvd. (SE-5J)

Chicago, IL 60604 Office: (312) 353-1057 Fax: (312) 692-2406

Cell: (312) 237-5685 Behnke.Kristina@epa.gov

From: Reshkin, Karen

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:47 AM **To:** Behnke, Kristina < behnke.kristina@epa.gov >

Subject: please use this statement for the home page text

Hi Kristina,

Please use this statement to replace what's currently there and make the page live EPA is responding to a chemical spill at the U.S. Steel facility in Portage, Ind. This morning, the company reported a wastewater discharge to the Burns Waterway, within 100 yards of Lake Michigan. EPA has determined that the wastewater contains hexavalent chromium, a toxic byproduct of industrial processes. EPA is working with the company to contain the spill. At this time, it's not known how much has been spilled.

EPA is monitoring the waterway and Lake Michigan. This sampling does not show that the hexavalent chromium has reached Lake Michigan. EPA will continue to monitor and will provide updates as needed.

EPA is working closely with U.S. Steel and federal, state and local partners. In an abundance of caution, the nearest municipal water source, the Indiana American Water in Ogden Dunes, has shut down its water intake and will use reserve water. Also, the National Park Service has temporarily closed two beaches at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (see https://www.nps.gov/indu/index.htm for more information).

Please let me know if you have any issues with the statement

And there will be an updated statement later this morning. When will you be available to make the update?

Thank you, Karen

Karen Reshkin - 312-353-6353

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 (Chicago)

Chief, Multimedia Communications Section Office of External Communications Region 5 Web Council member